

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 10499 110950Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13

OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 DHA-02 EB-08 AID-05 MCT-01

ARA-06 /115 W

-----110953Z 022155 /17

O P 110917Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1605

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CG, FR MO MOPS AEMR

SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: FRANCE AGREES TO PROVIDE

AIRLIFT SUPPORT TO MOROCCAN TROOP INVOLVEMENT IN
ZAIRE.

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

FRENCH PRESIDENCY ANNOUNCED APRIL 10 THAT GOF HAS
AGREED TO PROVIDE AIRLIFT SUPPORT TO MOVEMENT OF
MOROCCAN TROOPS TO ZAIRE. OPERATION BEGAN EVENING
APRIL 9 AND IS CONTINUING. SEVERAL FRENCH AIR TRANSPORT
COMMAND TRANSALL AIRCRAFT AND SINGLE DC-8 ARE OPERATING
BETWEEN RABAT AND KINSHASA.

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2. ANNOUNCEMENT EMPHASIZED THAT AIRLIFT SUPPORT IS
BEING PROVIDED AT REQUEST OF MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT WITH
WHICH GOF HAS MILITARY ACCORDS, AND AT REQUEST OF
ZAIRE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS ATTEMPTING TO DEFEAT
ARMED SUBVERSIVE ATTACK ON SHABA PROVINCE FROM
EXTERNAL SOURCES. ANNOUNCEMENT ALSO EMPHASIZED

THAT FRENCH SUPPORT LIMITED TO AIRLIFT, AND WILL NOT INVOLVE FRENCH COMBAT FORCES. END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

3. PRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENT CAREFULLY PHRASED TO COMPROMISE TWO CONFLICTING PRESSURES. DOMESTIC POLITICAL PRESSURE IS OPPOSED TO INVOLVEMENT OF FRENCH COMBAT FORCES IN AREA WHERE FRENCH STRATEGIC INTERESTS ARE NOT DIRECTLY APPARENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, PRESSURE FROM MODERATE AFRICAN FRANCOPHONES IS FOR FRANCE TO DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU TO COUNTER PSYCHOLOGICAL MOMENTUM FAVORING CUBAN ACTIVITIES. THIS ELEMENT VERY IMPORTANT TO GISCARD WHO WILL BE MEETING FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE IN DAKAR AT THE END OF THIS MONTH. SO FAR, LOCAL PRESS REACTION DURING HOLIDAY WEEKEND HAS BEEN UNPOLEMICAL AND EVEN SLIGHTLY FAVORABLE TOWARD GOF ACTION. SINGLE HARSH NOTE HAS BEEN RADIO AND TV ANALYSIS THAT MOBUTU FIRST REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM OLD FRIEND USG, AND TURNED TO FRANCE ONLY WHEN IT BECAME APPARENT THAT USG COULD NOT DELIVER. GAMMON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, MILITARY PLANS, MILITARY AIRLIFTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770125-0286
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770469/aaaacieb.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e1b62fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHABA INVASION: FRANCE AGREES TO PROVIDE AIRLIFT SUPPORT TO MOROCCAN TROOP INVOLVEMENT IN ZAIRE.
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, AEMR, CG, FR, MO
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Type: TE
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